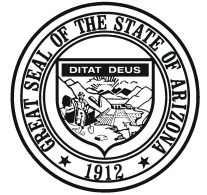


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Calling Bingo

Over the past few months we have had several questions come up regarding who can call bingo and how it is called. Here are some points to remember.

Anyone with an affidavit on file with us can call bingo. To act as caller for a Class A licensee, all you have to do is be there. An affidavit is not needed. There are no special requirements; however, the caller needs to have a good understanding of the bingo statutes and the rules dictating how the game is to be played. Otherwise, they may have an inordinate number of erroneous calls.

The person calling the bingo balls shall not remove more than one bingo ball at any time from the receptacle. Removing more than one ball at a time is a violation of Rule R15-7-209 C and it will most definitely create ill will with the players.

The person calling bingo also needs to allow a reasonable length of time for the players to announce **BINGO**. In larger buildings where there may be more than one room, the caller needs to give the bingo workers enough time to circulate through the players to see if anyone did call **BINGO**. If a bingo worker heard a player announce **BINGO** before the caller initiates the next call but could not notify the caller until

after the caller had already completed the next call, it is a bingo for the first caller even though someone announced **BINGO** on the next consecutive number. The rules require that no player shall be awarded a prize unless the **BINGO** was announced on the last immediate number called. Because the first player announced **BINGO** on the last number called and was heard by a bingo worker, they win. When this happens, the second player is always upset at the outcome.

After a player has announced **BINGO**, a bingo worker shall verify the numbers on the winning card in the presence of a disinterested player. The bingo worker shall call the numbers of the winning combination or bingo pattern except the cover-all. For the cover-all pattern, the bingo worker may call all the numbers not called during the game.

When a bingo winner is confirmed, the caller shall announce to the players that there is a winner, then ask if there are other winners. After verification of each bingo winner, the caller shall declare the game completed.

Calling Bingo

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Calling Bingo

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The designated prize shall then be awarded. Multiple winners shall share the prize in accordance with R15-7-210.

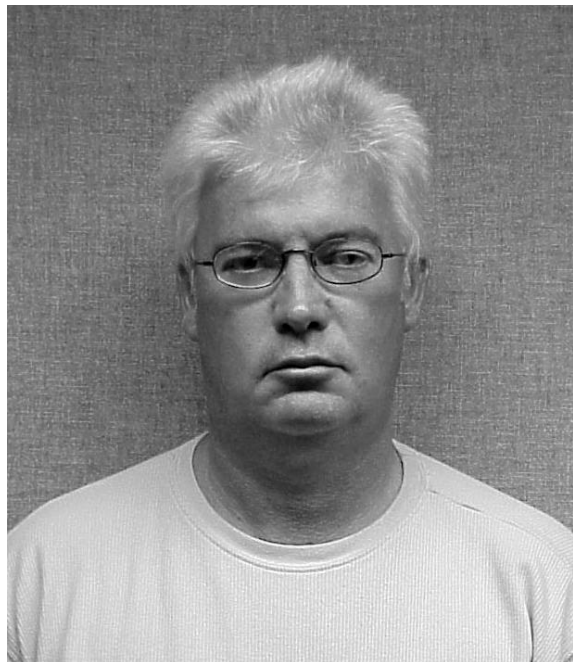
If during a game of bingo, the caller makes an error in calling the number on a bingo ball or in announcing the number of bingo balls called, the error shall be corrected immediately.

If, as the result of correcting the error, it is found that a player would have announced **BINGO** on the correct number or another number already called, the prize shall be awarded to the winning players as if the correct number had been the last number called. If a player announced **BINGO** as a result of an erroneously called number, the bingo shall be declared invalid. No prize shall be awarded based on an erroneous call.

Bingo Hires A New Investigator

We are pleased to announce the addition of Ralph Young to our Phoenix staff. Ralph is a retired police officer from the Dayton (Ohio) Police Department

After 25 years of service, he retired and moved to Arizona last December. During his career, Ralph worked as a patrol officer, vice officer and as a detective. He served as a sergeant for 20 of those 25 years. Ralph is married with four grown children. He enjoys golf, running, and travel. Did he say GOLF?



That's the real reason he moved to Arizona. Ralph is looking forward to getting out to see our bingo operations throughout the state. Please be sure to say "hi".

Selling Extra Bingo Cards

There are no restrictions on selling extra bingo cards throughout your bingo occasion. Some licensees only sell extra cards on the floor for big games. Some sell special game cards up-front when they sell the games cards. A lot depends on how many workers you have available to sell cards and specials.

Record the sale of extra game cards on the back of your verification record. In the **Game Work Sheet** box, record the game number and the number of extra game cards sold. Add your regular card sales and extra card sales together and post the total under, **E. CASH RECORDS**, line 2, on the front page.

Bonanza Bingo

This is a game where the players are sold a bingo card, which is folded so the numbers on the card are hidden. The caller pulls a specified number of bingo balls from the receptacle and places them on the master board without calling them. After a period of time, such as an intermission, the game is continued. The caller announces all of the previously pulled numbers in the order they were drawn. If no one announces bingo during this call, additional balls are announced until there is a winner. If someone announces a bingo, call back all the balls pulled to that point. Remember, when playing this game all balls must be recorded in the order they were pulled. If someone announces bingo on an already pulled number, call back each bingo ball in the order pulled. The player must announce bingo on the last number called, just as in any other bingo game.

Don't Write A Check On Insufficient Funds

When the legislature enacted the bingo statutes their intent was to prohibit the proliferation of gambling in Arizona and to protect licensed charitable organizations from unscrupulous suppliers and organized crime. Because of this they felt it necessary to require every bingo worker to be of good moral character, have never been convicted of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, or a felony. They also wrote into the law restrictions and guidelines

on how the games are played. All in an effort to insure that the games are conducted in a manner that is above reproach.

Crimes involving moral turpitude are ones that violate the rights of others; e.g., assault, theft, embezzlement, willful property damage, fraud, forgery, sexual offenses, etc. If the crime is determined to be minor in nature, it is classified as a misdemeanor. The legislature has classified writing a bad check as a theft: A.R.S. § 13-1807. This is an economic crime against another person. In amounts less than \$2,000, the crime is a misdemeanor, but it is still a crime.

If you write a check on your bingo account **knowing** that it has insufficient funds to cover the check, you have committed a crime. In most cases the crime is a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. In doing this you have also violated several laws relating to the operation and conduct of bingo games. A paraphrase of A.R.S. § 5-409 states that if you knowingly falsify a record relating to a bingo game, it is a class 2 misdemeanor. Writing a check for a prize amount is a record.

Writing a bad check is also a violation of Administrative Rule R15-7-232, *"The licensee shall maintain in the bingo checking account a amount sufficient to cover all checks written."* This means there must be sufficient funds in the account **BEFORE** you write the check.

Henceforth, the Bingo Section will aggressively investigate all complaints from players involving bad checks written by our licensees. Depending on the circumstances, this may or may not include the temporary suspension or revocation of their license to conduct bingo games.

Wild Numbers

Here are a few tidbits of information concerning "Wild Numbers".

You do not have to call a ball when it is pulled if it is a wild number. All wild numbers are considered called at the very beginning of the game when the wild numbers were identified.

Put it on the master board after it is drawn.

If you call the wild number, it does not count as the last ball called. The last ball called before a wild ball is considered valid until you call another ball.

Pick-a-Pet

In this game, the prize ranges from \$50 to \$250. When a player is verified to have a winning card, the player selects a stuffed animal which has an envelope attached. The envelope will contain \$50, \$100, \$150, \$200 or \$250. The envelope is opened and the licensee announces the prize as being the amount of money in the envelope. The game is then closed.

This game violates existing bingo rule R15-7-219, Notice of Prizes, which states:

Prior to the sale of cards for any bingo occasion, the bingo licensee shall post a notice in a conspicuous place on the premises where the bingo is to be played describing the nature and exact amount of prizes to be awarded including the method of determining substitute prizes to be awarded in the event of multiple winners.

In the case of Pick-a-Pet, the exact amount of the prize to be awarded is not known until the player chooses a stuffed animal.

Administrative Rule R.15-7-201.1 states,

BINGO means that specific kind of game of chance commonly known as bingo, in which prizes are awarded on the basis of a designated pattern of numbers or symbols on a card conforming to numbers or symbols selected at random."

In this game there is an extra factor in awarding the prize. In addition to accomplishing a bingo, the player must select a stuffed animal to receive a prize. This seems to fit the description of a lottery and would be a violation of A.R.S. §5-406.X.

The Pick-a-Pet game also violates R15-7-220, Alternate Prizes for Winners Within Specified Number of Calls, which states in part:

"Within the dollar limits prescribed by A.R.S. § 5-406(P), alternate prizes may be offered based upon the number of calls within which a successful bingo is achieved."

No other alternatives are authorized. In the case of Pick-a-Pet, there are five (5) prizes being offered. The determining factor as to which prize is awarded is not based on the number of calls but on which stuffed animal is chosen.

We know that you are trying to make your games more interesting. However, until we can get these rules changed, you have to work with the rules we have.